

Miscellaneous Notes

1. CAN YOUNG BATS COMMUNICATE WITH THEIR PARENTS AT A DISTANCE ?

At about 9-30 a.m. a few days ago, my orderly smoked out a dozen or so pipistrelles from behind the wooden panel of our electric meter. The bats flew aimlessly about in the bright sunshine and 3 small young bats fell to the ground under the meter. I had them picked up and placed in a hedge about 25 yards away to save them from crows and other predators. When I went out for a walk at about 5.30 p.m. they were still there.

At about 6.45 p.m. the same evening, the bats made a couple of sorties into the verandah but, instead of alighting on the panel, they flew to the hedge where the young lay. I did not see them carry away the young, but when the place was examined a few minutes later the young were gone.

A specimen of the pipistrelle was later identified at the Society as *Pipistrellus mimus* Wroughton, 1899.

NEW DELHI,
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MAJOR A. DAVID

[The incident reported suggests interesting possibilities of high frequency vocal communication, inaudible to the human ear, between bats. Brosset (*J. Bombay nat. Hist. Soc.* 59 :722) refers to the absence of any breeding records in this species from Indian limits; the present observation is interesting in this respect also.—EDS.]

2. NOTES ON THE HAIR OF SOME BATS

(With a text figure)

INTRODUCTION

Although hair is one of the characteristic features of mammals there is not much work done so far on the detailed structure of the mammalian hair and there is no record of specific differences in the structure of the hair among related species. Our attention was drawn to this